



REGIONAL POLICY FORUM (HYBRID)

PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT, DIGITIZATION AND DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES PROJECT

DRAFT PROGRAMME

8 SEPTEMBER 2022

9:00-16.00HRS (GMT +3)

Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eXCMhYrLR6CAO57ZY1A1og

This project entitled "Transregional Research on Private Sector Development, Digitization and Disruptive Technologies" was implemented by African Economic Research Consortium in cooperation with the Economic Research Forum (ERF) and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Programme

9.00 A.M -17.00 P.M (GMT+3)

9.00 -10.00 Arrivals and Registration for in Person attendants in Nairobi –
Trademark Hotel
Registration online by virtual attendants.

Session 1, Opening of the Policy Forum (10:00-10:45)

Moderator, Abebe Shimeles, Director of Research, AERC

45 Minutes

Opening/Welcome Remarks

10.00-10.20

- ❖ Ms. Yasmine Fahim, Director of Research & Programs, ERF
- ❖ Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u , Executive Director, AERC

10.20 -10.45

Keynote Speaker: **Mr. Peter Ndegwa**, Chief Executive Officer, Safaricom PLC

10.45 -11.00

HEALTH BREAK

Session I, paper presentations (11.00 – 13:10)

Moderator, Abebe Shimeles, Director of Research

Welcome and introduction by the session Moderator

75 Minutes Presentation (25 minutes each)

11.00 -11.15

Structural Transformation in MENA and SSA: The Role of Digitization
Prof. Jaime de Melo and Dr. Jean-Marc Solleder
University of Geneva and FERDI (Fondation pour les etudes et
recherches en développement international)

11.15-11.25

Discussant: **Prof. Ogundiran Soumonni**, University of Witwatersrand,
South Africa

11.25 -11.40

Digitalization in MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparative
Analysis of Mobile Internet Uptake and Use in Sub-Saharan Africa and
MENA Countries.
Prof. Izak Atiyas, Sabanci University and **Dr. Mark Dutz**, World Bank

11.40-11.50

Discussant: **Dr. Miriam Omolo**, Executive Director, The African Policy
Research Institute.

11.50 -12.05

Opportunities and Challenges of Disruptive Technologies on Growth in
Ethiopia with a case Study of Service Sectors that are Vulnerably to
Disruptive Technology.
Prof. Alemayehu Geda, Addis Ababa University

12.05-12.20

Discussant: **Dr. Ben Mkalama**, University of Nairobi

12.20 -12.35

Disruptive Technologies, Agricultural Productivity and Economic
Performance in Kenya.
**Dr. Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Boniface Munene, John Macharia
and Violet Nyabaro**

Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis, KIPPRA

12.35 -12.45

Discussant:– **Dr. Jacob Omollo**, Kenyatta University

12.45 -13.10	Floor Discussions
13.10 -14.10	HEALTH BREAK

Session II, paper presentations (14:10-15:40)

Moderator, Prof. Rosemary Atieno, University of Nairobi

Welcome and introduction by the session Moderator

75 Minutes Presentation (25 minutes each)

14.10 -14.25	Adoption des technologies numériques, productivité et dynamique d'emploi dans le secteur manufacturier et de services au Sénégal (Digital technology adoption, productivity and employment dynamics in the manufacturing and service sectors in Senegal). Thierno Malick Diallo, Tsambou André Dumas & Fomba Kamga Benjamin Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis, Senegal
14.25 – 14.35	Discussant: Dr. Lassana Cissokho , Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal
14.35– 14.50	Digital technologies and manufacturing performance in South Africa: firm-level evidence. Elvis Korku Avenyo & Jason F. Bell Centre for competition Regulation and Economic Development
14.50 -15.00	Discussant – Prof. Odongo Kodongo , University of Witwatersrand
15.00 -15.15	Impacts of disruptive technologies in South Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa. Prof. Lukasz Grzybowski , University of Capetown
15:15 -15.25	Discussant: Prof. Mbaye Diene , Consortium pour la Recherche Économique et Sociale (CRES), Senegal
15.25 -15.40	Floor Discussions

Session III, Policy Roundtable (15:40 -16:40)

60 Minutes Moderator, **Dr. Rose Ngugi**, Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis, KIPPRA

	Policy Panel
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carole Kariuki, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Private Sector Alliance, Kenya
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cynthia Samuel-Onjuwon, ILO Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mezgebu Amha Terefe, Director, Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation, Ethiopia
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miriam Bomett, Kenya Association of Manufacturers.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helen Retta, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectorial Association, Ethiopia
16.40 -16.50	Key takeaways and session closing by the session moderator
16.50 -17.00	Closing remarks: Njuguna Ndung'u, Executive Director, AERC